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Culture of peace

Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, China, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed",

Recognizing the importance of the Declaration[1] and Programme of Action[2] on a Culture of Peace, which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recalling its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001-2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children

[1] Resolution 53/243 A.
[2] Resolution 53/243 B.

Please recycle

of the World, and resolutions 56/5 of 5 November 2001, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, 58/11 of 10 November 2003, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, 60/3 of 20 October 2005, 61/45 of 4 December 2006, 62/89 of 17 December 2007, 63/113 of 5 December 2008, 64/80 of 7 December 2009, 65/11 of 23 November 2010 and 66/116 of 12 December 2011, adopted under its agenda item entitled "Culture of Peace",

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking note of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly,[4]

Welcoming the observance of 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence, as proclaimed by the United Nations,[5]

Recognizing that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peacebuilding, the prevention of conflicts, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to the culture of peace,

Recognizing also the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, of choosing negotiations over confrontation and of working together and not against each other,

Welcoming the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/116 and transmitted by the Secretary-General,[6]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on intercultural and interreligious dialogue,[7]

Recalling the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 21 February as the International Mother Language Day, which aims at protecting, promoting and preserving linguistic and cultural diversity, and multilingualism, in order to foster and enrich a culture of peace, social harmony, cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding,

Expressing its appreciation for the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in promoting a culture of peace through a number of practical projects in the areas of youth, education, media and migrations, in collaboration with Governments, international organizations, foundations and civil society groups, as well as media and corporate leaders,

Welcoming the successful holding on 14 September 2012 of the first-ever High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace of the General Assembly, convened by its President, and the wide-ranging partnership and inclusive collaboration among

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[3] See resolution 55/2.
[4] See resolution 60/1.
[5] See resolution 61/271.
[6] See A/67/284.
[7] A/67/283.

Member States, international organizations and civil society, as evidenced at the Forum,

Welcoming also the high-level debate organized at United Nations Headquarters by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to mark the observance of the International Day of Peace on 21 September 2012,

Welcoming further the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-sixth session of a programme of action for a culture of peace and non-violence, and noting that the objectives of that programme of action are in line with the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace adopted by the General Assembly,

Encouraging the continued and increasing efforts and activities on the part of civil society organizations throughout the world in advancing the culture of peace as envisaged in the Declaration and Programme of Action,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace[2] is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001-2010, and calls upon all concerned to renew their attention to this objective;

2. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

3. *Invites* the entities of the United Nations system, within their existing mandates, to integrate, as appropriate, the eight action areas of the Programme of Action into their programmes of activities, focusing on promoting a culture of peace and non-violence at the regional, national and international levels;

4. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for which the promotion of a culture of peace is the expression of its fundamental mandate, for further strengthening the activities it has undertaken to promote a culture of peace;

5. *Commends* the practical initiatives and actions by relevant United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the University for Peace, as well as their activities, in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;

6. *Encourages* the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to promote peacebuilding activities and advance a culture of peace and non-violence in post-conflict peacebuilding efforts at the country level;

7. *Urges* the appropriate authorities to provide age-appropriate education, in children's schools, that includes lessons in mutual understanding, tolerance, active citizenship, human rights and the promotion of a culture of peace;

8. *Encourages* the involvement of media, especially the mass media, in promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people;

9. *Commends* civil society, non-governmental organizations and young people for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace and the peaceful settlement of disputes;

10. *Encourages* civil society and non-governmental organizations to further strengthen their efforts to promote a culture of peace, inter alia, by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, in line with the Declaration and Programme of Action;

11. *Welcomes* the decision, taken on 10 November 2011, by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to proclaim 30 April as International Jazz Day, and calls upon Member States to participate actively in the celebration of International Jazz Day in order to develop and increase intercultural exchanges and understanding between cultures for the purpose of mutual comprehension and tolerance;

12. *Stresses* the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in mobilizing all relevant stakeholders within and outside the United Nations system in support of cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace, and invites the Organization to continue to enhance communication and outreach, including through the culture of peace website;[8]

13. *Invites* Member States, all parts of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, including the International Day of Peace Non-Governmental Organization Committee at the United Nations, to accord increasing attention to their observance of the International Day of Peace on 21 September each year as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001;

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to consider convening a high-level forum, as appropriate and within existing resources, devoted to the implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace on the occasion of the anniversary of the adoption of the Programme of Action, on or around 13 September;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, in consultation with the Member States and taking into account the observations of civil society organizations, to explore mechanisms and strategies, in particular strategies in the sphere of information and communications technology, for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action and to initiate outreach efforts to increase global awareness of the Programme of Action and its eight areas of action aimed at their implementation;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on actions undertaken to implement the present resolution and on heightened activities by the United Nations and its affiliated

[8] www3.unesco.org/iycp/.

agencies to implement the Programme of Action and to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".